GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:338
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
NIMESULIDE DRUG
M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Nimesulide drug is being sold and manufactured in India which has been banned in almost all the countries; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to confirm its reliability and reaction in children?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) Nimesulide has not been banned in almost all countries. The use of Nimesulide is reported to have been suspended only in Spain, Turkey and Finland. Nimesulide is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID), and is reported to be used in about 50 countries including India. It is indicated for acute pain/inflammation and fever. In India the drug was approved in 1995, and is a prescription drug.

(b) A detailed examination has been undertaken by an expert committee (Sub-Committee) of Drug Technical Advisory Board to deliberate on the issues concerning the safety of Nimesulide, including its use in Children. More than 20 expert pediatricians across the country and the Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) were consulted.Majority of experts have confirmed the reliability of Nimesulide and no serious adverse reaction in children have been reported in the country.